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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/612,565	07/07/2000	Nobuhiko Maki	35.C14627	9229

5514 7590 10/29/2003

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EXAMINER

LEZAK, ARRIENNE M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2143

DATE MAILED: 10/29/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/612,565

Applicant(s)

MAKI ET AL.

Examiner

Arrienne M. Lezak

Art Unit

2143

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 07 July 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent 6,460,030 B1 to Ludtke. Regarding Claims 1, 7, 10, 11, 15, 21, 24, 25, 29 and 30, Ludtke discloses a network system comprising an information processor and a device, (Abstract; Col. 1, lines 64-67; and Col. 2, lines 1-2), said device comprising: first storage means for storing hierarchical position information indicating the position of said device in a hierarchical manner, (Col. 21, lines 60-67 and Col. 22, lines 1-44); second storage means for storing icon data indicating the device, (Col. 21, lines 60-67 and Col. 22, lines 1-44); control means for transmitting said stored hierarchical position information and said icon data to said information processor, (Col. 4, lines 40-54); said information processor comprising: display means for displaying said position based on said received hierarchical position information, (Col. 2, lines 2-30).

3. Regarding Claims 2, 8, 10, 16 and 22, Ludtke discloses a network system with an information processor further comprising: a third storage means for storing map data corresponding to said hierarchical position information, wherein said display means

selects the map data from said storage means based on said hierarchical position information, and overlaps and displays said device icon on the selected map data, (Col. 2, lines 2-30; Col. 9, lines 66-67; and Col. 10, lines 1-5).

4. Regarding Claims 3, 9, 10, 17 and 23, Ludtke discloses a network system wherein the information processor comprises communication means for obtaining the map data corresponding to said hierarchical position information from other information processors on the network, wherein said display means obtains the map data corresponding to said hierarchical position information from other information processors, and overlaps and displays the device icon in the obtained map data, (Abstract; Col. 1, lines 64-67; and Col. 2, lines 2-30).

5. Regarding Claims 4, 12, 18 and 26, Ludtke discloses a network system wherein the device comprises a judgment means for judging a device status, wherein said second storage means stores a plurality of icon data in accordance with said device status, and said control means selects the icon data in accordance with the judged device status from the plurality of stored icon data and transmits the icon data to said information processor, (Col. 21, lines 60-67 and Col. 22, lines 1-44).

6. Regarding Claims 5, 13, 19 and 27, Ludtke discloses a network system wherein the control means transmits the icon data and said hierarchical position information in response to a request from said information processor, (Col. 21, lines 60-67 and Col. 22, lines 1-44).

7. Regarding Claims 6, 14, 20 and 28, Ludtke discloses a network system wherein the control means transmit the icon data in accordance with the judged device status

and said hierarchical position information to said information processor in accordance with judgment of a device status change, (Col. 21, lines 60-67 and Col. 22, lines 1-44).

8. Therefore, this reference may reasonably be read to teach or describe every element or claim limitation of Claims 1-30.

9. Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent 5,796,951 to Hamner. Regarding Claims 1, 7, 10, 11, 15, 21, 24, 25, 29 and 30, Hamner discloses a network system comprising an information processor and a device, (Abstract and Col. 5, lines 7-12), said device comprising: first storage means for storing hierarchical position information indicating the position of said device in a hierarchical manner, (Col. 5, lines 7-41); second storage means for storing icon data indicating the device, (Col. 5, lines 7-41); control means for transmitting said stored hierarchical position information and said icon data to said information processor, (Abstract); said information processor comprising: display means for displaying said position based on said received hierarchical position information, (Col. 4, lines 1-32).

10. Regarding Claims 2, 8, 10, 16 and 22, Hamner discloses a network system with an information processor further comprising: a third storage means for storing map data corresponding to said hierarchical position information, wherein said display means selects the map data from said storage means based on said hierarchical position information, and overlaps and displays said device icon on the selected map data, (Abstract and Col. 3, lines 41-61).

11. Regarding Claims 3, 9, 10, 17 and 23, Hamner discloses a network system wherein the information processor comprises communication means for obtaining the

map data corresponding to said hierarchical position information from other information processors on the network, wherein said display means obtains the map data corresponding to said hierarchical position information from other information processors, and overlaps and displays the device icon in the obtained map data, (Abstract; Col. 3, lines 41-61; Co. 12, lines 37-67 and Col. 13, lines 1-29).

12. Regarding Claims 4, 12, 18 and 26, Hamner discloses a network system wherein the device comprises a judgment means for judging a device status, wherein said second storage means stores a plurality of icon data in accordance with said device status, and said control means selects the icon data in accordance with the judged device status from the plurality of stored icon data and transmits the icon data to said information processor, (Abstract; Col. 3, lines 41-61; Col. 4, lines 59-67; and Col. 5, lines 1-41).

13. Regarding Claims 5, 13, 19 and 27, Hamner discloses a network system wherein the control means transmits the icon data and said hierarchical position information in response to a request from said information processor, (Abstract; Col. 3, lines 41-61; Col. 4, lines 59-67; and Col. 5, lines 1-41).

14. Regarding Claims 6, 14, 20 and 28, Hamner discloses a network system wherein the control means transmit the icon data in accordance with the judged device status and said hierarchical position information to said information processor in accordance with judgment of a device status change, (Abstract; Col. 3, lines 41-61; Col. 4, lines 59-67; and Col. 5, lines 1-41).

15. Therefore, this reference may reasonably be read to teach or describe every element or claim limitation of Claims 1-30.

Conclusion

16. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

US PATENT 5,910,803 to Grau;
US PATENT US 2003/0041134 A1 to Sugiyama;
US PATENT US 6,574,662 to Sugiyama;
US PATENT US 6,212,571 B1 to Hasebe;
US PATENT US 6,430,612 B1 to Iizuka;
US PATENT 5,929,852 to Fisher; and
EUROPEAN PATENT EP 1 067 731 A2 to Ochiai.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Arrienne M. Lezak whose telephone number is (703)-305-0717. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David A. Wiley can be reached on (703)-308-5221. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

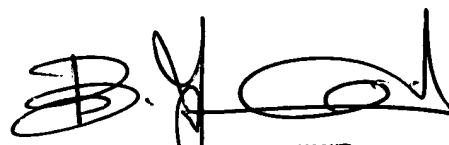
Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)-305-6121.

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Arrienne M. Lezak
Examiner
Art Unit 2143

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BUNJOB JARDENCHONWANIT
PRIMARY EXAMINER